

**From:** Cope.Ben@epamail.epa.gov  
**Sent time:** 03/22/2011 10:24:29 AM  
**To:** Soscia.Marylou@epamail.epa.gov  
**Cc:** Croxton.David@epamail.epa.gov; Rueda.Helen@epamail.epa.gov; Mann.Laurie@epamail.epa.gov; Lorraine\_Edmond/R10/USEPA/US%EPA@aa.ad.epa.gov; Michael\_Cox/R10/USEPA/US%EPA@aa.ad.epa.gov  
**Subject:** Re: Brainstorming Future WA Columbia River Basin Work

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Marylou, All -

I think a temperature analysis for a TMDL at Grand Coulee is doable, and it would be nice to see how Canadian dams impact the incoming temperature at the border. We have a CE-QUAL-W2 water quality model for "dam in" that was recently built by the outstanding folks at Portland State U. It could be taken off the shelf, adjusted to give a "no dam" version, and used for the analysis with modest contract funding.

The policy part, actually issuing a TMDL, would be more challenging, since it's quite possible there is no practical way to meet WQS (UAA all over again).

We know from the Bureau that powerhouse ops affect the temperature released by the dam, and there is a way to release cooler water by diverting flows from the newer to the older powerhouse. It would be nice if some mechanism could compel them to do that if it aids downstream fish.

-BC

Ben Cope, Environmental Engineer  
Office of Environmental Assessment  
EPA Region 10  
Seattle, Washington  
206-553-1442

▼ Marylou Soscia---03/18/2011 02:20:25 PM---Dear Ben, Mike, Helen and Lorraine: Laurie Mann called me yesterday and asked about my ideas for som

From: Marylou Soscia/R10/USEPA/US  
To: Ben Cope/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael Cox/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Helen Rueda/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Lorraine Edmond/R10/USEPA/US@EPA  
Cc: Laurie Mann/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, David Croxton/R10/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 03/18/2011 02:20 PM  
Subject: Brainstorming Future WA Columbia River Basin Work

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Dear Ben, Mike, Helen and Lorraine:

Laurie Mann called me yesterday and asked about my ideas for some potential WA Columbia Basin TMDL work.

I am sharing my ideas with you in case you have more to add, additional ideas or amendments to my ideas - the sky is the limit - consider this an electronic brainstorming session.

1. Do Columbia River Temperature Work @ Grand Coulee - fits in w/Columbia River Treaty. Temperature is one of top 4 ecosystem factors in Treaty negotiations - EPA has limited resources to provide technical input into this State Dept led negotiation on how US and Canada will manage dams. Tribes have put water temperature on table as a major ecosystem factor -of course they have! And we did talk at one time about breaking up the Columbia River TMDL which we never finished to do the Grand Coulee/Upper Columbia River portion separately.

2. PCB TMDL- i.d. sources and load allocation for PCBs - known problem in Basin. What are the listings?

3. Mercury TMDL- build off Willamette TMDL to do Mercury TMDL - (Helen says that even though there are about 50 fish advisories there may not be enough listings).

4. Columbia Basin Project - Nutrient/Pesticide Stewardship Partnership with Bureau of Reclamation, farmers using monitoring funded by the Bureau to implement partnership based nutrient, pesticide and sediment reduction actions building off of the Nutrient Strategy just released by EPA HQ. This would be a TMDL implementation work effort instead of TMDL that might point fingers and feds and we could work with the Bureau to get resources from them on table to do actions and monitoring. Both WA AG and Sandy Halstead have emphasized to me the need to do this kind of work.

What do you think? ml

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Mary Lou Soscia  
Columbia River Coordinator  
US EPA - Region 10 - OWW  
805 S.W. Broadway, Suite 500  
Portland, OR 97205  
[www.epa.gov/region10/columbia](http://www.epa.gov/region10/columbia)  
<http://twitter.com/EPAcolumbia>  
503.326.5873  
fax: 503.326.3399